



Institute for Sustainability Africa

*'Advancing Sustainability Initiatives for Africa'*

## SUSTAINABILITY TRENDS

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## Why sustainable investing in emerging markets makes sense

Sustainable investing and the integration of ESG metrics into the investment process continues to grow in influence. Deloitte has estimated that ESG-related assets could make up about half of all managed assets in the United States by 2025. That's about \$34.5 trillion in ESG assets by 2025. Most of that ESG investing is in developed markets. ESG investments in emerging markets are growing, but from a low base. In 2021, sustainable debt issuance in emerging markets more than doubled from 2020, bringing in \$190 billion in funding. Sustainability-related equity issuance was a modest \$25 billion. **Read more:** <https://www.greenbiz.com/article/why-sustainable-investing-emerging-markets-makes-sense>

## Battery recycling, two ways



The lithium-ion batteries that power electric vehicles are well-known, at this point, as the main culprit for the environmental impact associated with manufacturing EVs. There are obvious carbon emissions generated by the mining of metals for EV batteries, not to mention high water usage and potential human rights abuses. But a new sector of

tech companies are hoping to change that through "urban lithium mining," or more simply put, battery recycling. **Read more:** <https://www.greenbiz.com/article/battery-recycling-two-ways>

## More than money: How corporations can really help climate tech startups



European climate tech funds raised \$2.6 billion in 2021 — an amount double that of the year before. Among those that helped to derive that record figure were a range of corporations. Credit Suisse backed 2150's inaugural urban sustainability fund, which invests in startups changing the way cities are "designed, constructed and powered." Aviva chose

U.K. government-backed Clean Growth Fund, a supporter of U.K. cleantech ventures. **Read more:** <https://www.greenbiz.com/article/more-money-how-corporations-can-really-help-climate-tech-startups>

## Preparing for climate disclosure in the largest capital market



Five-ish score and 100 parts per million of atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> ago, the U.S. financial system collapsed. Due largely to the "truth in securities" law — a major piece of legislation created to protect investors after the stock market crash of 1929 — and the subsequent establishment of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), a century has passed without seeing a Great Depression II. A CO<sub>2</sub> level of 430 ppm would push

our world beyond its target for avoiding dangerous climate change. **Read more:** <https://www.greenbiz.com/article/preparing-climate-disclosure-largest-capital-market>

## Climate change has (finally) arrived at business school



There has been a fundamental shift in the way business schools talk about climate change. Where once the topic used to come up only among small groups of passionate MBA students, this year has brought a groundswell of support from high places — including the public commitment to climate research and education by the deans of eight leading European business schools and the blockbuster announcement about the creation of the Stanford Doerr

School of Sustainability which includes faculty and curriculum from many parts of the the university, including the Graduate School of Business. **Read more:** <https://www.greenbiz.com/article/climate-change-has-finally-arrived-business-school>

## The sustainable agrifood system puzzle



With the world's population recently hitting 8 billion people, feeding the world within planetary boundaries has become a significant challenge. As the agrifood system strives to provide food, fiber and fuel for a growing world, the pressure on agriculture continues to increase. Global conflict, inflation and rising food prices are amplifying that pressure. Developing agricultural solutions requires meaningful collaboration, scaling innovations and co-investing across the entire value chain. **Read more:**

<https://www.greenbiz.com/article/sustainable-agrifood-system-puzzle>

## Opinion: Rethinking sustainability for global food assistance programs

In the Far North region of Cameroon, at the crossroads of the Lake Chad Basin, smallholders cultivate land with limited crop diversity, face unpredictable rains, and are displaced by conflict and insecurity. As a result, parents must reduce the quality and quantity of food they eat to prioritize their children, while some regretfully reduce how much they feed their children. The COVID-19 pandemic exacerbated constraints, disrupting market access, health services, and livelihood activities. Globally, the intensity and frequency of these shocks is increasing, substantially contributing to the stagnation and reversal of global improvements in food insecurity, and undernutrition and child wasting. In the second half of 2022, 222 million people were expected to face acute food insecurity, the highest number in nearly a decade. To prevent and manage food insecurity and undernutrition in Cameroon and beyond, the global community should plan for how to sustainably continue vital food assistance programs, while building more resilient food systems that provide equitable access to healthy diets. **Read more:** <https://www.agri-pulse.com/articles/18962-opinion-rethinking-sustainability-for-global-food-assistance-programs>



## CAPACITY BUILDING = CONTINENT BUILDING

Entrepreneurship is crucial to Africa's economic growth and development. Research has it that, entrepreneurship could be the solution to the continent's youth unemployment challenge, which is projected to reach 60% by 2030. Business education and training play a vital role in building the skills needed for successful youth entrepreneurship in Africa. The Tony Elumelu Foundation recognizes the importance of training and capacity building for young African entrepreneurs to help them start or scale their businesses and this is why the TEF Business Management Training is one of the strong pillars of the Foundation's flagship programme.

**Read more:** <https://www.tonyelumelufoundation.org/research-publications/capacity-building-continent-building>

## Lafarge Africa recognised for sustainability, environmental performance

One of the leading innovative and sustainable building solutions companies, Lafarge Africa Plc, has won four different awards for its contributions and achievements in sustainability and environmental performance, as well as its commitment towards gender inclusion and diversity in the workplace. The company received the award for Sustainability Reporting at the 2022 NGX Made of Africa Awards. The NGX Made of Africa Awards is designed to recognise companies and individuals within the capital market system that demonstrate exceptional performance in value delivery and sustainable impact and act as key drivers in strengthening the Nigerian and African capital markets. **Read more:** <https://guardian.ng/property/lafarge-africa-recognised-for-sustainability-environmental-performance/>

## African Technology Companies turn environmental sustainability to their advantage

The world trashes more and more electronics every year. A new ITC workshop shows African tech companies how handling e-waste better can save money and create new exports Esther Yeboah uses a lot of devices. She works for 365 Impact Ltd, a company in Ghana that uses tracking devices to monitor trucks and tractors, and to gather humidity data for farms. Her office was filling up with computers and other tech that they no longer used, devices that could end up in a landfill if not disposed of properly. Known as electronic waste, or e-waste, from old devices accounts for 70% of the world's toxic waste. That poses a severe risk to human health, and to the environment. **Read more:** <https://www.intelligentcio.com/africa/2023/02/28/african-technology-companies-turn-environmental-sustainability-to-their-advantage/>

## African countries are scaling up the fight against climate change



While Africa accounts for the lowest share of global greenhouse gas emissions annually (around 3% to 4%, according to different estimates), it disproportionately suffers from the effects of climate change. According to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, gross domestic product per capita for 1991-2010 in Africa was on average 13.6% lower than if climate change was not present. **Read more:**

[https://www.omfif.org/2023/02/african-countries-](https://www.omfif.org/2023/02/african-countries-are-scaling-up-the-fight-against-climate-change/)

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## Zimbabwe: In Zimbabwe, Majority Support Gender Equality, Think Greater Efforts Are Needed

Zimbabwe: In Zimbabwe, Majority Support Gender Equality, Think Greater Needed Educational achievement is gender-eEfforts Are qual in Zimbabwe, according to survey results. Women are less likely than men to have a bank account (38% vs. 49%) but match or slightly exceed men in ownership of a mobile phone, a computer, and a car, as well as participation in household financial decisions. A majority of citizens say women should have the same rights as men to get paying jobs (59%) and to own and inherit land (77%). **Read more:** <https://allafrica.com/stories/202303010019.html>

## Exports to drive horticulture growth: ZimTrade



ZIMBABWE'S horticultural exports are expected to increase this year as a result of producers' growing desire to enter the export market and buyers' increasing interest in purchasing from local suppliers, ZimTrade has said. Zimbabwe, according to the country's export promotion organisation, used to have the most sought-after produce on the African continent

in years gone by and that same interest was seen and revived at this year's Fruit Logistical Expo, the largest fresh fruit and vegetable fair in the world. **Read more:** <https://www.theindependent.co.zw/agriculture/article/200008172/exports-to-drive-horticulture-growth-zimtrade>

## Recycling Could Reduce Zimbabwe's Environmental and Economic Woes



A new study by Reloop Platform, a global non-profit organization, has found that the implementation of a well-structured recycling system could help Zimbabwe address its environmental and economic woes. Zimbabwe has been grappling with a myriad of challenges in recent years, including high levels of poverty, unemployment, and environmental

degradation. **Read more:** <https://www.waste360.com/recycling/recycling-could-reduce-zimbabwes-environmental-and-economic-woes>

## New sorghum could boost yields in Zimbabwe



PATANCHERUVU, INDIA — A collaborative effort between the International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) and the Pan African Seed Co., the Seed Co Group, has led to the development of a new hybrid of white sorghum (great millet) that has a yield potential of up to 8 tonnes per hectare. **Read more:** <https://www.world-grain.com/articles/18173-new-sorghum-could-boost-yields-in-zimbabwe>

# SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY SERVICES

We help our clients to build business value by embedding and active management of economic, social and environmental impact in their business.

Our expertise and understanding of the local context coupled with our international consortium of experts helps clients identify where to focus, measure and disclose their sustainability practices and values internally and externally thus fostering long term value creation.



INSAF Consulting, 22 Walter Hill Avenue  
Eastlea, Harare, Zimbabwe.

Phone: (+263) 242 796501, (+263) 773 057 384.

Email: [admin@insafrica.org.zw](mailto:admin@insafrica.org.zw),

[mdamba@insafrica.org.zw](mailto:mdamba@insafrica.org.zw)

Web: [www.instforsustainafrica.org](http://www.instforsustainafrica.org)

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Institute for Sustainability Africa



## About The Institute

INSAF is an independent multi-disciplinary independent think tank and research organization working towards a sustainable Africa. The Institute is a registered Independent Trust (MA1218/2012) in Zimbabwe.

## Our Vision

Advance Sustainability Initiatives for Africa.

## Our Mission

Foster Sustainability Initiatives and Innovations towards Green Economy, Sustainable Development and Sustainable Living through applied research, programmes and technical support services across sectors.

## Our Values

- A non-partisan research institute;
- An agent for change that promote transformation towards sustainability;
- Committed to rigorous and objective research and analysis to support policy and decision making across sectors;
- Capable of handling complex economic, environmental, developmental and social issues honestly;
- Committed to environmental sustainability principle, practices and values.





## CONTACT DETAILS

Institute for Sustainability Africa (INSAF)

22 Walter Hill Avenue

Eastlea,

Harare,

Zimbabwe

Telephone: +263 242 796501

Web: [www.instforsustainafrica.org](http://www.instforsustainafrica.org)

Email: [admin@insafrica.org.zw](mailto:admin@insafrica.org.zw)